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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/607,120	STROLE, NORMAN C.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Crystal J. Barnes	2121	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Request for Continued Examination (RCE) submitted on 12 July 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4 and 6-58.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

- Attachment(s)**
- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a Notice of Allowability in response to the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) received on 12 July 2007. Claims 1, 17 and 34 have been amended. Claim 5 has been cancelled. Claims 1-4 and 6-58 remain pending in this application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Joseph A. Sawyer, Jr., Reg. No. 30,801 on 25 September 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 last line, deleted "is t use in" and inserted "--is to use in--".

Claims 6, 7, 10, first line; deleted "claim 5" and inserted "--claim 1--".

Added the following claims:

50. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the network processor is configured to be used in networking applications.

51. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the plurality of packets is a plurality of computer network packets.

52. (Original) The apparatus of claim 51 wherein the plurality of packets is a plurality of Ethernet packets.

53. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the network processor is configured to be used in networking applications.

54. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein the plurality of packets is a plurality of computer network packets.

55. (Original) The method of claim 54 wherein the plurality of packets is a plurality of Ethernet packets.

56. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 34 wherein the network processor is configured to be used in networking applications.

57. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 38 wherein the plurality of packets is a plurality of computer network packets.

58. (Original) The computer-readable medium of claim 57 wherein the plurality of packets is a plurality of Ethernet packets.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. Claims 1-4 and 6-58 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per claim 1, the prior art of record taken alone or in combination fails to teach a control station coupled to the plurality of sensors and the network processor, the control station receiving the plurality of statuses for encapsulating the plurality of statuses in a plurality of packets and providing the plurality of packets to the network processor, wherein each of the plurality of the packets includes an information field, the information field includes a plurality of subfields wherein the plurality of subfields includes the statuses of the plurality of sensors, wherein an embedded command within each packet indicates the subfield that the network processor is to use in building a key.

As per claims 17 and 34, the prior art of record taken alone or in combination fails to teach receiving in a network processor a plurality of encapsulated statuses in a plurality of packets for a plurality of attributes from a plurality of sensors, the plurality of sensors for monitoring the plurality of attributes of the system, wherein each of the plurality of packets includes an information field, the information field includes a plurality of subfields, wherein

the plurality of subfields includes the statuses of the plurality of sensors, wherein an embedded command within each packet indicates the subfield that the network processor is to use in building a key.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following references are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to processing packets in general:

USPN 7,215,637 B1 to Ferguson et al.

USPN 7,065,213 B2 to Pinder

USPN 6,895,244 B2 to Iyer

USPN 6,823,232 B2 to Murphy

USPN 6,487,457 B1 to Hull et al.

USPN 5,920,705 to Lyon et al.


USPN 3,956,615 to Anderson et al.

US Pub. No. 2006/0095146 A1 to Hesse et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Crystal J. Barnes whose telephone number is 571.272.3679. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday alternate Mondays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony Knight can be reached on 571.272.3687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


CRYSTAL J. BARNES
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER
CJB

25 September 2007